


Health Care Reform Update # 9

Medi-Cal Program

Questions or Comments? Send an e-mail to: HCR@dpss.lacounty.gov 



BEWARE OF HEALTH CARE RELATED FRAUDULENT SCHEMES

As a result of the implementation of Health Care Reform, many families and individuals now have access to obtain affordable health care to meet their medical needs. On another note, there are also individuals that are taking advantage of those that are less informed about the new health care laws by creating fraudulent schemes to steal personal identifying information. California Attorney General, Kamala Harris, recently announced the removal of ten private health insurance websites that misled Californians by imitating Covered California.

If you are contacted by any consumers that may have been a victim of potential fraud, refer them to Covered California's Office of Consumer Protection by asking them to call (800) 300-1506 or by emailing, consumerprotection@covered.ca.gov. Consumers may also file a complaint with the California Attorney General's office at: <http://oag.ca.gov/contact/consumer-complaint-against-business-or-company>.



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HWLA TRANSITION TO MEDI-CAL

Effective, January 01, 2014, all individuals enrolled in the HWLA Program as of December 31, 2013, were transitioned to the Medi-Cal Program via an electronic file. In Los Angeles County, over 307,000 HWLA recipients were transitioned in the process and their MEDS record was updated by the State with the transition aid code of L1. Under the new L1 aid code, they receive full-scope benefits until their next annual redetermination, when they will be re-evaluated for all Medi-Cal Programs. As a result of the transition, ongoing case management responsibilities were also transferred from the Department of Health Services to DPSS. In addition, the following steps occurred as a result of the transition process:

- By mid-December 2013, all HWLA beneficiaries were mailed a Medi-Cal Benefit Issuance Card for use, effective with the transition to Medi-Cal.
- HWLA beneficiaries were assigned to DPSS District Offices based on address of residence for ongoing case management responsibilities.
- Subsequent notices were mailed out to all HWLA beneficiaries to provide them with contact information to report changes and provide case related information.



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MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY FOR DACA INDIVIDUALS

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), also referred to as the Dream Act, refers to individuals who entered the United States (U.S.) as children and meet the following:

- Under 31 years of age as of June 15, 2012;
- Came to the U.S. while under the age of 16;
- Continuously resided in the U.S. from June 15, 2007 to the present;
- Entered the U.S. without inspection before June 15, 2012, or their lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012;
- Physically present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making the request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
- Currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a GED, or have been honorably discharged from the Coast Guard or armed forces; and
- Not convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor, or more than three misdemeanors and do not pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Under Permanent Residence Under Color of Law (PRUCOL), DACA individuals are considered to be legally present under Deferred Action Status. This population is eligible for state funded **full-scope** Medi-Cal coverage under MAGI/Non-MAGI Medi-Cal. Individuals may apply through Covered California, or at the County level (YBN, mail-in, or walk-in).

DACA individuals can declare their immigration status by utilizing the **MC 13, Statement of Citizenship, Alienage, and Immigration Status** form. Individuals will declare their PRUCOL and deferred action status by answering Questions 4 & 5 in, Section B of the MC 13.

For additional information about DACA, refer clients to USCIS at 1(800) 375-5283, or they may visit www.uscis.gov. For questions about Medi-Cal eligibility related to immigration status, staff may contact, Anik Minasian, with Medi-Cal Program at (562) 908-4341.

Source: AD Coverage for Immigrants Under Health Care Reform

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DID YOU KNOW?



- DPSS assisted over 60,000 consumers to apply for health care benefits during the Health Care Reform Pre-Enrollment Period from October 1 through December 31, 2013.
- During the same period, over 19,000 calls were received by DPSS from Covered California via the Warm Hand-Off process.

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